

EARLY PARAMEDIC WARNING SYSTEM

I. AUTHORITY: *Health and Safety Code Division 2.5, Chapter 5, Section 1797.204. The local EMS agency shall plan, implement, and evaluate an emergency medical services system, in accordance with the provisions of this part, consisting of an organized pattern of readiness and response services based on public and private agreements and operational procedures.*

II. APPLICATION: This procedure provides a process for fire service personnel to obtain current information on the open/closed status of paramedic trauma receiving centers (PTRC's).

Operationally, this procedure provides a means to notify field personnel of a potential increase in travel time to an available PTRC. Early notification of PTRC status will allow for coordination of alternate transportation resources, if necessary.

NOTE: FINAL AUTHORITY FOR PATIENT DESIGNATION RESTS WITH THE BASE HOSPITAL PHYSICIAN.

- III. PROCEDURE:
- A. Base Hospital (BH):
 - 1. The BH shall receive and document all changes in PTRC open/closed status.
 - 2. When requested, the BH shall update "OCC" on the open/closed status of the PTRCs.
 - B. Fire Service Agency:
 - 1. The first arriving unit shall advise the responding advanced life support (ALS) unit that the call is a trauma incident or a multi-victim incident (MVI).
 - 2. The responding ALS unit shall contact "OCC" to determine the open/closed status of the PTRCs and to obtain a communication assignment. The responding ALS unit should advise OCC which PTRC is geographically closest and confirm its open status.

ITALICIZED TEXT IDENTIFIES FROM AN AUTHORITY OUTSIDE THE ORANGE COUNTY EMSA.